

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW FISHES FROM PORT JACKSON.

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(Notes from the Australian Museum.)

TRIPTERYGIUM ANNULATUM, sp.nov.

D. 3/12/11. A. 1/18. V. 2. P. 15. C. 13. Ll. 33. L.tr. 8*.

Length of the head three and four-fifths to four, of caudal fin five and three-fifths to five and four-fifths, of pectoral fin three and a half, height of body beneath the origin of the second dorsal five and a fourth in the total length. The eye is situated in the upper half of the head and just touches the dorsal profile, its diameter is two-sevenths of the length of the head, and about five-sixths of that of the snout, which is oblique and slightly concave, whereas the occiput is flat. The interorbital space is also slightly concave, and is three-sevenths of the diameter of the eye. The cleft of the mouth is almost horizontal, the upper jaw being the longer, and the maxilla extending to the front margin of the eye. A short simple fleshy tentacle above the middle of the eye. Villiform teeth on the jaws, vomer, and palate, with an enlarged row in front on the jaws. The first dorsal fin commences above the middle of the opercle, and is subequal in height to the two others; the second dorsal commences a little behind the base of the pectoral, and is sub-continuous with the first, while the third commences above the eighth anal ray, and is separated from the

*Counting obliquely backwards from the origin of the third dorsal to the base of the anal fin.

second by an appreciable interspace. In the first and second dorsal fins the rays are simple, but in the third all are articulated, as also are those of the anal fin with the exception of the first, which is simple: the middle pectoral rays are the longest, slightly longer than the head: caudal fin rounded. The lateral line is interrupted opposite the termination of the second dorsal fin. *Colors*—red; the head is much darker than the body; base of the pectoral fin dark bluish-black; many of the scales, especially those above the lateral line, with a transverse dusky streak. A conspicuous black band round the free part of the tail. Dorsal fins, especially the first and second, dusky.

Two examples of this pretty little fish, the larger of which is just an inch and a half in length, were obtained early in the present month beneath stones between tidemarks at Vacluse by Mr. Edward McIntosh, who brought them in a fresh state to the Museum.

CONGROMURÆNA LONGICAUDA, sp.nov.

D. 178. A. 116. C. 10.

Length of the head two and a half in the distance between the end of the snout and the vent; length of the trunk five-eighths of that of the tail. The cleft of the mouth is slightly oblique, it extends backwards to beneath the anterior third of the orbit, and the distance between it and the tip of the snout is two and four-fifths of the length of the head. The eye is of moderate size, its diameter being contained five and a quarter times in the length of the head, and one and a half in that of the snout; the bony inter-orbital space is flat and narrow, three-eighths of the diameter of the eye; the upper jaw extends considerably beyond the lower, and its upper profile is slightly convex. The lips are thin. Teeth in the jaws in several rows, the outer one of which is acute, those behind them being obtuse or even granulose; vomerine teeth extending backwards fully two-thirds of the length of the maxillary band, in about six rows and granulose. The dorsal fin commences opposite the middle of the pectoral, which is one-third of

the length of the head. The anal commences beneath the fortieth dorsal ray. *Colors*—uniform pale brownish-yellow; the vertical fins grey with a narrow black margin; irides silvery.

The specimen from which the above description has been drawn up, was picked out from among a number of small eels from the Parramatta River brought by the prawn fishers to the Sydney market, and is eleven and a quarter inches in length. The greater length of its tail distinguishes it at once from *C. habenata*, in which the tail and trunk are subequal